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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
JEAN-JACQUES MOREAU ET AL.) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Application No.: NYA) Group Art Unit: NYA
Filed: Concurrently Herewith)
For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR)
CONFIGURING AN ELECTRONIC)
DOCUMENT PROCESSING)
PERIPHERAL IN A COMMUNI-)
CATION NETWORK) Date: August 7, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 20 and 27, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein.

Please amend Claims 1-19, 21-26, and 28-30, and add new Claims 31-34, to read as follows. A marked-up version of the amended claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

1. (Amended) A method of determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, said method comprising the steps of:

- obtaining (504) a user identification data item;
- determining (506) user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item; and
- determining (508), as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral.

2. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, implemented in a communication network that includes at least one client station, one server station, and at least one processing peripheral, in response to a request sent from a client station to the server station, further comprising the step of:

- obtaining (504) a peripheral identification data item, before said step of determining a configuration profile, such that a configuration profile applicable is then determined (508) as a function of the user characteristics and the peripheral identification data item.

3. (Amended) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the user identification data item and the peripheral identification data item are extracted (504) from a request sent by a client station to the server station, the request being a document

processing request or a request to obtain a configuration profile.

4. (Amended) A method according to either one of Claims 2 or 3, wherein said steps of determining user characteristics and determining a configuration profile are accomplished by means of a database (44, 46) in which there are stored, associated together, peripheral data each representing an identity of a peripheral, user data representing user characteristics, and configuration data each representing a configuration profile.

5. (Amended) A method according to Claim 2, further comprising the step of:

- if required by the client station, updating (604, 606) a configuration of the peripheral in a context of the configuration profile applicable.

6. (Amended) A method according to Claim 5, wherein said configuration updating step includes:

- receiving (500) from the client station a request for obtaining the configuration profile applicable;
- determining and sending (508, 516) to the client station the configuration profile applicable; and
- receiving (600) from the client station the configuration profile applicable with a parameter having a modified value.

7. (Amended) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the user identification data item is a chain of characters identifying a user and a password entered by the user in order to connect the user to the client station.

8. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the user characteristics indicate a level of service subscribed to by a user.

9. (Amended) A method according to Claim 8, wherein a level of service subscribed to by a user is defined according to a financial sum paid by the user.

10. (Amended) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the peripheral identification data item is a network address of the peripheral.

11. (Amended) A method according to Claim 4, wherein the configuration data each represent a configuration profile indicate an electronic address of a computer object containing a configuration profile.

12. (Amended) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the network is an Internet.

13. (Amended) A method according to Claim 11, wherein the client station and the server station communicate using an HTTP protocol.

14. (Amended) A method according to Claim 13, wherein the electronic address of a computer object containing a configuration profile is an address of a uniform resource locator (URL) type, and the computer object is an object defined in an annotation language of an extended mark-up language (XML) type.

15. (Amended) A method of obtaining a configuration profile determined according to a method as defined in Claim 2, comprising the following steps implemented in a client station:

- generating and sending (400-410) to the server station a request to configure an electronic document processing peripheral, the request including a user identification data item and a peripheral identification data item; and
- receiving (412, 414) a configuration profile of the peripheral from the server station, in response to the configuration request.

16. (Amended) A method according to Claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

- displaying (416) the configuration profile; and
- modifying (420, 422) a current configuration associated with the configuration profile.

17. (Amended) A method according to Claim 16, in which the peripheral configuration uses a peripheral driver, further comprising the step of, when the peripheral

driver is stored in the server station:

- sending (434) to the server station the configuration profile containing the modified configuration.

18. (Amended) A method according to Claim 16, in which the configuration of the peripheral uses a peripheral driver, further comprising the step of, when the peripheral driver is locally stored in the client station:

- using (426) the configuration profile for configuring the peripheral driver.

19. (Amended) A method of configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, said method comprising determining a configuration profile in accordance with Claim 1.

21. (Amended) A device for determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, said device comprising:

- means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item;
- means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item; and
- means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral.

22. (Amended) A device according to Claim 21,

wherein said device is used in a communication network having at least one client station, one server station, and at least one processing peripheral, in response to a request sent from a client station to the server station, and

wherein said device further comprises:

- means (42) for obtaining a peripheral identification data item, the configuration profile applicable then being determined as a function of the user characteristics and the peripheral identification data item.

23. (Amended) A device for determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, said device comprising:

means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item;

means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item;

means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral;

means for obtaining (504) a peripheral identification data item, such that a configuration profile applicable is determined (508) as a function of the user characteristics and the peripheral identification data item; and

means for determining a configuration profile,

wherein the user identification data item and the peripheral identification data item are extracted (504) from a request sent by a client station to a server station, the request being a document processing request or a request to obtain a configuration profile.

24. (Amended) A device for obtaining a configuration profile determined according to a method as defined in Claim 2, said device comprising:

- means (36) for generating and sending to the server station a request to configure an electronic document processing peripheral, the request containing a user identification data item and a peripheral identification data item;
- means (38) for receiving a configuration profile of the peripheral from the server station, in response to the request to configure.

25. (Amended) A device according to Claim 24, further comprising:

- means (32) for displaying the configuration profile;
- means (38) for modifying a current configuration associated with the configuration profile; and
- means (38) for sending to the server station the configuration profile containing a modified configuration.

26. (Amended) A device for configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, wherein said device includes a device for determining a configuration profile according to any one of Claims 21 to 23.

28. (Amended) A server station connected to a communication network,
said server station comprising a device for determining a configuration profile for an
electronic document processing peripheral according to Claim 21.

29. (Amended) A client station connected to a communication network,
said client station comprising a device for obtaining a configuration profile according to
Claim 24.

30. (Amended) A communication network comprising:

a server station; and

a client station,

wherein said server station includes a device for determining a configuration
profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile
representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the
parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, the device comprising:

means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item,

means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of
the user identification data item, and

means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user
characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral,

and wherein said client station includes a device for obtaining a
configuration profile according to Claim 24.

31. (New) A method of configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, said method comprising the steps of:

determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, said step of determining a configuration profile including:

obtaining (504) a user identification data item,

determining (506) user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item, and

determining (508), as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral; and

obtaining a configuration profile according to Claim 14.

32. (New) A method of configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, said method comprising the steps of:

determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, said step of determining a configuration profile including:

obtaining (504) a user identification data item,

determining (506) user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item, and

determining (508), as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral; and obtaining a configuration profile according to Claim 15.

33. (New) A device for configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, said device comprising:

means for determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, said means for determining a configuration profile including:

means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item;

means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item;

means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral; and

means for obtaining a configuration profile in accordance with Claim 24.

34. (New) A device for configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, said device comprising:

means for determining a configuration profile for an electronic document

processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, said means for determining a configuration profile including:

means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item;

means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item;

means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral; and

means for obtaining a configuration profile in accordance with

Claim 25.

REMARKS

Claims 1-19, 21-26, and 28-34 are pending for examination. Claims 20 and 27 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein. New Claims 31-34 have been added to provide Applicants with a more complete scope of protection. The foregoing amendments to Claims 1-19, 21-26, and 28-30 are presented to place the claims in proper multiple-dependent form and/or to correct certain informalities arising from their translation from a foreign language.

Favorable consideration and early passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by

telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A method of determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, [said] the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for [said] the peripheral, a set of fixed values of [said] the parameters defining a particular configuration of [said] the peripheral, [the] said method [being characterised in that it comprises] comprising the [following] steps of:

- obtaining (504) a user identification data item;
- determining (506) user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item; and
- determining (508), as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring [said] the peripheral.

2. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, implemented in a communication network [having] that includes at least one client station, one server station, and at least one processing peripheral, in response to a request sent from a client station to the server station, [characterised in that it includes, before the step of determining a configuration profile, the following step] further comprising the step of:

- obtaining (504) a peripheral identification data item, [the] before said step of determining a configuration profile, such that a configuration profile applicable is then [being] determined (508) as a function of [said] the user characteristics and [said] the peripheral

identification data item.

3. (Amended) A method according to Claim 2, [characterised in that] wherein the user identification data item and the peripheral identification data item are extracted (504) from [the] a request sent by a client station to the server station, [said] the request being [able to be] a document processing request[,] or a request to obtain a configuration profile.

4. (Amended) A method according to either one of Claims 2 or 3, [characterised in that the] wherein said steps of determining user characteristics and determining a configuration profile are accomplished by means of a database (44, 46) in which there are stored, associated together, peripheral data each representing [the] an identity of a peripheral, user data representing user characteristics, and configuration data each representing a configuration profile.

5. (Amended) A method according to [any one of Claims] Claim 2 [to 4], [characterised in that it also includes] further comprising the [following] step of:

- if required by the client station, updating (604, 606) [the] a configuration of [said] the peripheral in [the] a context of the configuration profile applicable.

6. (Amended) A method according to Claim 5, [characterised in that the] wherein said configuration updating step includes [the following steps]:

- receiving (500) from the client station a request for obtaining the configuration

profile applicable;

- determining and sending (508, 516) to the client station the configuration profile

applicable; and

- receiving (600) from the client station the configuration profile applicable with

[at least one of the parameters] a parameter having a modified value.

7. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the preceding claims] Claim 2, [characterised in that said] wherein the user identification data item is a chain of characters identifying a user and a password entered by the user in order to connect [himself] the user to the client station.

8. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, [characterised in that said] wherein the user characteristics indicate a level of service subscribed to by [the] a user.

9. (Amended) A method according to Claim 8, [characterised in that] wherein a level of service subscribed to by a user is defined according to a financial sum paid by the user.

10. (Amended) A method according to [any one of Claims] Claim 2 [to 9], [characterised in that] wherein the peripheral identification data item is a network address of the peripheral.

11. (Amended) A method according to [any one of Claims] Claim 4 [to 10], [characterised in that said] wherein the configuration data each [representing] represent a configuration profile indicate [the] an electronic address of a computer object containing a configuration profile.

12. (Amended) A method according to [any one of Claims] Claim 2 [to 11], [characterised in that] wherein the network is [the] an Internet.

13. (Amended) A method according to Claim 11, [characterised in that] wherein the client station and the server station communicate using [the] an HTTP protocol.

14. (Amended) A method according to Claim [12 or] 13, [characterised in that] wherein the electronic address of a computer object containing a configuration profile is an address of [the] a uniform resource locator (URL) type, and [said] the computer object is an object defined in an annotation language of [the] an extended mark-up language (XML) type.

15. (Amended) A method of obtaining a configuration profile determined according to a method as defined in [Claims] Claim 2 [to 14], [characterised in that it comprises] comprising the following steps[,] implemented in a client station:

- generating and sending (400-410) to the server station a request to configure an electronic document processing peripheral, [said] the request [containing] including a user

identification data item and a peripheral identification data item; and

- receiving (412, 414) a configuration profile of [said] the peripheral from the server station, in response to the configuration request.

16. (Amended) A method according to Claim 15, [characterised in that it also comprises the following] further comprising the steps of:

- displaying (416) [said] the configuration profile; and

- modifying (420, 422) a current configuration associated with the configuration profile.

17. (Amended) A method according to Claim 16, in which the peripheral configuration uses a peripheral driver, [characterised in that it also includes the following] further comprising the step of, when the peripheral driver [of the peripheral] is stored in the server station:

- sending (434) to the server station the configuration profile containing the modified configuration.

18. (Amended) A method according to Claim 16, in which the configuration of the peripheral uses a peripheral driver, [characterised in that it also includes] further comprising the [following] step of, when the peripheral driver [of the peripheral] is locally stored in the client station:

- using (426) the configuration profile for configuring the peripheral driver [of the peripheral].

19. (Amended) A method of configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, [characterised in that it includes the steps of a method of] said method comprising determining a configuration profile in accordance with [any one of Claims] Claim 1 [to 14].

20. (Canceled)

21. (Amended) A device for determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, [said] the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for [said] the peripheral, a set of fixed values of [said] the parameters defining a particular configuration of [said] the peripheral, [the] said device [being characterised in that it comprises] comprising:

- means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item;
- means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item; and
- means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring [said] the peripheral.

22. (Amended) A device according to Claim 21,

wherein said device is used in a communication network having at least one client station, one server station, and at least one processing peripheral, in response to a request sent from a client station to the server station, [characterised in that it] and

wherein said device further comprises:

- means (42) for obtaining a peripheral identification data item, the configuration profile applicable then being determined as a function of [said] the user characteristics and [said] the peripheral identification data item.

23. (Amended) A device [according to Claim 21, characterised in that it has] for determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, said device comprising:

means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item;

means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item;

means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral;

means for obtaining (504) a peripheral identification data item, such that a configuration profile applicable is determined (508) as a function of the user characteristics and the peripheral identification data item; and

means for [implementing a method of] determining a configuration profile [in accordance with any one of Claims 3 to 14],

wherein the user identification data item and the peripheral identification data item are extracted (504) from a request sent by a client station to a server station, the request being a document processing request or a request to obtain a configuration profile.

24. (Amended) A device for obtaining a configuration profile determined according to a method as defined in [Claims] Claim 2 [to 14], [characterised in that it comprises] said device comprising:

- means (36) [of] for generating and sending to the server station a request to configure an electronic document processing peripheral, [said] the request containing a user identification data item and a peripheral identification data item;

- means (38) for receiving a configuration profile of [said] the peripheral from the server station, in response to the [configuration] request to configure.

25. (Amended) A device according to Claim 24, [characterised in that it also comprises] further comprising:

- means (32) for displaying [said] the configuration profile;

- means (38) for modifying a current configuration associated with the configuration profile; and

- means (38) for sending to the server station the configuration profile containing

[the] a modified configuration.

26. (Amended) A device for configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, [characterised in that it] wherein said device includes a device for determining a configuration profile according to any one of Claims 21 to 23.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Amended) A server station connected to a communication network, [characterised in that it comprises] said server station comprising a device for determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral[,] according to [any one of Claims] Claim 21 [to 23].

29. (Amended) A client station connected to a communication network, [characterised in that it comprises] said client station comprising a device for obtaining a configuration profile[,] according to Claim 24 [or 25].

30. (Amended) A communication network comprising:
[at least one] a server station [according to Claim 28,]; and
[at least one] a client station [according to Claim 29],
wherein said server station includes a device for determining a configuration

profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, the device comprising:

means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item,

means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item, and

means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral,

and wherein said client station includes a device for obtaining a configuration profile according to Claim 24.

31. (New) A method of configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, said method comprising the steps of:

determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, said step of determining a configuration profile including:

obtaining (504) a user identification data item,

determining (506) user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item, and

determining (508), as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration

profile applicable for configuring the peripheral; and

obtaining a configuration profile according to Claim 14.

32. (New) A method of configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, said method comprising the steps of:

determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, said step of determining a configuration profile including:

obtaining (504) a user identification data item,

determining (506) user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item, and

determining (508), as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral; and

obtaining a configuration profile according to Claim 15.

33. (New) A device for configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, said device comprising:

means for determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the

peripheral, said means for determining a configuration profile including:

means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item;

means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item;

means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral; and

means for obtaining a configuration profile in accordance with Claim 24.

34. (New) A device for configuring an electronic document processing peripheral, said device comprising:

means for determining a configuration profile for an electronic document processing peripheral, the configuration profile representing a set of configuration parameters for the peripheral, a set of fixed values of the parameters defining a particular configuration of the peripheral, said means for determining a configuration profile including:

means (42) for obtaining a user identification data item;

means (42, 46) for determining user characteristics as a function of the user identification data item;

means (42, 44, 46) for determining, as a function of the user characteristics, a configuration profile applicable for configuring the peripheral; and

means for obtaining a configuration profile in accordance with Claim 25.